

("Words for School"). In "A'amu Tupuna" ("Ancestral Tales") Lucas Pakarati Tepano tells the curious tale of "Hotu". And Marcos Rapu Tuki concludes with the dirges "Riu Tangi mo Veri 'a Haukena" ("Lament for Veri 'a Haukena").

A splendid read. *Ka 'Ara te Mata!* is simply marvelous for the continued encouragement of reading and writing the Rapanui language on the island. If there is any small critique to be made, then it would only be that more Rapanui--and less Tahitian--should be used. As much as 50% of the vocabulary in the publication is at times Tahitian, not Rapanui. This smarts.

*Ka 'Ara te Mata!* not only opens our Rapanui eyes--it opens our Rapanui hearts.

## Review

Edwin N. Ferdon Jr., an old Easter Island hand, who celebrated his 80th birthday last year, has recently published another book, *Early Observations on Marquesan Culture 1595-1813*. The publisher is University of Arizona Press, Tucson. The price: \$40.

*Robert Langdon.*

Originally an American geographer, anthropologist and archaeologist, Ferdon did extensive field work especially in Ecuador and Mexico and published his *Studies in Ecuadorian Geography* in 1950. In 1955-56, he went to Easter Island and the eastern Pacific with Thor Heyerdahl's Norwegian Archaeological Expedition and later served as co-editor, with Heyerdahl, of the two massive tomes on the expedition's work.

After retiring in 1978 after 17 years as associate director of the Arizona State Museum in Tucson, Ferdon decided to try to recreate the life of the people whose shell and bone artifacts, stone ceremonial structures and what not he had helped to excavate in Polynesia. He started with Tahiti and delved into the records of the British, French and Spanish explorers who visited that island between 1767 and 1797. The result was *Early Tahiti: As the Explorers Saw It 1767-1797*, which the University of Arizona Press published in 1981.

Ferdon followed up his Tahiti book with a similar one on Tonga, *Early Tonga: As the Explorers Saw It 1616-1810*. That saw the light, with the same publisher, in 1987. This third book in the same vein on the Marquesas has a somewhat different title because the European explorers did not call at the Marquesas with the same frequency or for the same lengths of time as they did in Tahiti and Tonga. Indeed, Ferdon's principal source of information was not the explorers but a missionary, William Pascoe Crook, the first European to live in the group. He was there for 19 months in 1797-98. A marvelously informative, but little-known ethnography based on Crook's observations is preserved in the Mitchell Library, Sydney.

Ferdon's Marquesan volume runs to 184 pages. This is well over 100 fewer than his previous volumes. It follows a

similar pattern, however. After a brief opening chapter about the position, geography and climate of the Marquesas, there are chapters on: the Marquesans and their dwellings, social organization and government, religion, daily life and diversions, from birth to death, the quest for food, transportation and trade, and warfare. A final chapter discusses the origins of the Marquesans and eight cultivated American plants that Crook found growing in their islands. The invaluable bibliographical references that follow fill almost 27 pages.

For those interested in Easter Island prehistory, the last chapter is especially significant. Although in the past Ferdon never quite saw eye-to-eye with Heyerdahl on the question of American Indian influence in Polynesia, his discovery of Crook's material forced him to conclude that 'one might reasonably ascribe the presence and use of some of the American plants. . . to a pre-Columbian introduction'. This prompted the further thought that 'a more balanced approach' to the American Indian question is now justified than has been apparent in the past.

## PUBLICATIONS

★ Anguita, Patricia. 1988. L'insertion des Rapanui a Tahiti et Moorea (1871-1920). *Bulletin de la Société des Etudes Océaniques* 20 (8):No. 243, pp. 21-39.

★ Bahn, Paul and John Flenley. 1994. Easter Island, a terrible warning. *Focus Magazine* for April, Pp. 92-97. London.

★ Blixen, Olaf. 1993. El arbol de la abundancia y el origen mitico de las plantas cultivadas en America del sur. *Moana*, IV(3). In Spanish. For information, contact Dr. Blixen at Casilla de Correos 495, Montevideo, Uruguay.

★ Grijp, Paul van der. 1993. Women's handicrafts and men's arts: The Production of Material Culture in the Polynesian kingdom of Tonga. *Journal de la Société des Océanistes*, 97:159-167. Musée de l'Homme, Paris.

★ Gibbons, Ann. 1994. Genes Point to a New Identity for Pacific Pioneers. *Science* 263:32-33, for January 7.

This study found that a small percentage of the Polynesian population, including East Polynesia, carry a Melanesian genetic marker, as do some very early Lapita skeletons.

★ Hagelberg, Erika and J.B. Clegg. 1993. Genetic Polymorphisms in Prehistoric Pacific Islanders Determined by Analysis of Ancient Bone DNA. *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, 252:16

★ Hagelberg, Erika, Silvia Quevado, Daniel Turbon, and J.B. Clegg. 1994. DNA from ancient Easter Islanders. *Nature* Vol.369:25-26.

This brief report describes the analysis of DNA from prehistoric skeletal material from Ahu Tepeu and Ahu Vinapu and provides genetic evidence for the Polynesian origin of prehistoric Easter Islanders. The "...results confirm the Polynesian affinities of the original settlers and support the view that the unique culture that developed on the island resulted from the environmental conditions and several centuries of isolation."

★ Helu, Futa. 1993. Identity and Change in Tongan Society since European Contact. *Journal de la Société des Océanistes*, 97:187-194. Musée de l'Homme, Paris.

★ Hynes, James. 1994. Mynheer Roggeveen comes to Amsterdam. *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Vol. XXXIII (2). The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Pp.360-371. "Mynheer Roggeveen . . ." is an excerpt from a novel-in-progress concerning Jacob Roggeveen and titled *The Center of the World*. Extrapolating from this sample, the book is likely to be a hit. Copies of single articles from *Michigan Quarterly Review* can be ordered from Xerox University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd, Ann Arbor MI 48106.

★ *Journal of the Polynesian Society*, 1994. Vol. 103(1) for March. University of Auckland, New Zealand. Of particular interest in this issue is a paper by Elizabeth Matisoo-Smith, "The Human Colonisation of Polynesia. A Novel Approach: Genetic Analyses of the Polynesian Rat (*Rattus Exulans*), pp. 75-87. This paper presents a model for a corroborative genetic approach (mtDNA) for tracking paths of human migration by using a commensal species that travelled with the colonists on their founding expeditions.

★ *Journal of the Polynesian Society*, V.102(3) for September 1993; and Vol. 102(4) for December 1993. University of Auckland, New Zealand.

★ *Journal of the Polynesian Society Centennial Index: 1892-1991*. Compiled by Dorothy Brown. Memoir 50, The Polynesian Society, Auckland, New Zealand.

*JPS* should need no introduction to readers of *Rapa Nui Journal*. This paperback book of 279 pages celebrates one hundred years of published research by the Polynesian Society. The first half of the Index is organized by Author-Title-Subject; the second part covers Book-Film-Recording Reviews. This is a marvelous resource for scholarly libraries. For information, write the Society at Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand.

★ *Keepers of the Spirit: Stories of Nature and Humankind*. 1993. Edited by Paul Berry. Beyond Words Publishing, Hillsboro, Oregon. This photo-essay book has a short 3-page essay on Rapa Nui, by Joan Seaver Kurze, titled "A View from the Navel of the World" plus six photographs of Rapa Nui by Chris Rainier.

★ *L'Echo de Rapa Nui*, No. 26, for Avril 1994. Clos du Parc 6, Braine L'Alleud, Belgium.

★ Leopold, Peter and Ricardo Herrgott. 1994. *Rapa Nui-Die Osterinsel. Alltag und Mythos des Eentlegensten Eilands der Welt* [Everyday life and myth of the worlds most remote island]. 260 pages, 35 color photos, b/w illustrations, maps. In German. Löwen Edition, Laimgrubengasse 19/19, A-1060 Vienna, Austria. DM 43; US \$25. ISBN 3-9500351-0-9.

★ Martinsson-Wallin, Helene. 1994. *Ahu--The Ceremonial Stone Structures of Easter Island: Analysis of Variation and Interpretation of Meanings*. Societas Archaeologica Upsaliensis. Department of Archaeology, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. Papercover, 188 pages, 163 figures, 5 appendices. ISBN 91-506-1043-0.

★ Mellen, Francisco and Carmen Zamarron. 1993. *Catalogo de Armas y Artefactos de las Islas del Oceano Pacifico Central y Australia*. Ministerio de Defensa Armada Española y Instituto de Historia y Cultura Naval, Museo Naval. Madrid, Spain. Lunwerg Editores S.A., Manuel Silvela 12, 28010 Madrid. Paperback, 94 pages, 8½ x 12 format. Ten pages of text, maps and charts; the remainder is given over to the catalog. Entries are accompanied by black and white photographs, plus 19 full-color plates and bibliography. This catalog illustrates and describes the collection in the Museo Naval (none are from Easter Island). The catalog costs approximately US \$5 (500 pts.); postage is extra. Contact the Publisher for details.

★ *Pacific News Bulletin*, Vol.9 (4) for April 1994. P.O. Box 489, Petersham NSW 2049, Australia.

★ Rensch, Karl H. 1991. *Tikitionario Mangareva-'Arani. Dictionnaire Mangarevien-Francais*. Archipelago Press [P.O.B. 274, Mawson, ACT 2607, Australia.

★ Reynolds, Kevin and Tim Rose Price. 1994. *Rapa-Nui: The Easter Island Legend on Film*. Newmarket Pictorial Moviebook. Newmarket Press, New York. ISBN 1-55704-184-9. Price: \$16.95. Papercover, 160 pages, over 140 illustrations (70 in full color).

★ Rjabchikov, Sergei. 1993. Rapanui Inscriptions (to the problem of decipherment). *Etnograficheskoe obozrenie*, Nr.4. Moscow. In Russian.

★ *Rongorongo Studies: A Forum for Polynesian Philology*. 1994. Vol.4(1), for Summer. Edited by Steven R. Fischer, Droste-Hulshoff-Weg 1, 88709 Meersburg, Germany.

★ Salvat, Bernard, Francine Salvat et Jean-Claude Thibault. 1993. Les oiseaux de Nukutipipi (archipel des Tuamotu, Polynésie). *Journal de la Société des Océanistes*, 97:183-186. Musée de l'Homme, Paris.

★ Sand, Cristophe. 1993. Données archéologiques et géomorphologiques du site ancien d'Asipani (Futuna--Polynésie occidentale). *Journal de la Société des Océanistes*, 97:117-114. Musée de l'Homme, Paris.

★ Spriggs, Matthew, and Atholl Anderson. 1993. Late Colonization of East Polynesia. *Antiquity* 67:200-217. This paper reviews and rejects every first-millennium (AD) carbon date from East Polynesia, including Rapa Nui. [Important even if you don't agree with its conclusions.]

★ *Tok Blong Pasifik*. 1994. February, No. 46. South Pacific People's Foundation of Canada. This focus of this issue is "The Commonwealth in the Pacific." A complimentary copy can be had by writing to SPPF, 415-620 View St., Victoria B.C., Canada, V8W 1J6.



## **Easter Island Foundation Fundación Rapanui**

Houston, Texas. People gathered at Rice University's Fondren Library to hear Dr. Georgia Lee talk about the history and archaeology of Easter Island. More than fifty participants, including Chilean Consulate Jorge Norambuena, attended the April lecture and reception that followed. Rosa Gorman and Nubia Carvajal, representing Casa de Chile, assisted as hostesses for the evening. LanChile Airlines generously donated a round-trip ticket from Santiago to Easter Island as part of a silent auction held during the reception. Other auction items were donated by Rosa Gorman and Monica Monsalves. The LanChile ticket was purchased by Paraguayan rancher Rhett Butler [we are not making this up!] in heavy bidding.

Rapanuiphiles swamped the gift table for EIF mugs, t-shirts, recent publications and other paraphernalia. EIF is grateful to Sheri Roane and Carol Radney for their help with the reception, Gabriel Covarrubias of LanChile Airlines, and to all who helped make the evening a success.

*Barbara Hinton, President*

The possibility of the Viña del Mar branch of the William Mulloy Library moving into badly-needed larger quarters is actively under investigation. The city mayor's office has given the go-ahead for a study to be made of the feasibility of rehabilitating two small houses behind the Fonck Museum where the Library is currently housed in one-half of a small office. The houses, formerly a garage and a servant's quarters, have been used for many years by the City's *Departamento de Tránsito*. An architectural study is now underway.

*William Liller, CEO*

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